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Annual Report

UPON THE

Public Health & Sanitary Condition

OF THE

Urban District of Linslade

FOR THE YEAR

1947

BY

M. C. ROTHCOPE

Medical Officer of Health.



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Urban District Council

OF

Linslade

To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Linslade

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year 1947.

The population of the district is estimated at 3,000 (1931 census 2,433) and the area 1,693 acres.

The district is mainly residential in character. There are two fairly large factories, one engaged in the manufacture of felt hoods, and the other foundry equipment. These two factories employ 90 and 150 hands respectively.

STAFF

The staff consists of myself, M. C. Rothcope, Medical Officer of Health (part time), and Mr. C. Laidman, Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

VITAL STATISTICS

Birth Rate

The total number of births registered in the Linslade Urban District for the year 1947 was 18; 5 males and 13 females, giving a birth rate of 6 per 1,000 of the estimated population.

Death Rate

The number of deaths registered as occurring during the year 1947 was 22, to this figure must be added 10 deaths of residents which occurred outside the district, giving a total of 32, equivalent to 10.66 per 1,000 of the estimated population. 24 of the 32 deaths occurred in persons over the age of 65.

		1945	1946	1947
Death Rate	...	13.3	13.3	10.66
Birth Rate	...	6.3	10.0	6.0

A detailed list showing causes of death is given on page 2.

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE LINSLADE URBAN DISTRICT

1947

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.								
	All Ages	Under 1 Year	1 and under 2	2 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 45	45 and under 65	65 and
All causes	32	1	...	...	...	...	1	6	24
Enteric Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small Pox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Influenza ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rheumatic Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other tuberculous diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer (malignant disease)	11	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	6
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Organic Heart Disease	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhlitis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diabetes ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebral Hæmorrhage... ..	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Arterio-sclerosis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Accidents & Diseases of Pregnancy & Parturition... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suicide	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Other defined Diseases	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Diseases ill-defined or unknown ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Old Age	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Accidents	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...
Totals	32	1	...	...	...	...	1	6	24

ZYMOTIC DISEASES

Eight cases of chicken pox; four cases of pneumonia; one case of whooping cough; twenty-two cases of measles; fifteen cases of scarlet fever, and two cases of sonne dysentery were notified.

TUBERCULOSIS

One case of Tuberculosis was notified.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

Number of children immunised during 1947: Under 5 years, 37; over 5 and under 15, one; re-inforcing injections, 16.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities

The Luton Corporation Pathological Department provide all facilities for the chemical and bacteriological examination of clinical material, water, milk and other foodstuffs.

Ambulance Facilities

An Infectious Disease Ambulance is provided by the North Bucks Joint Hospital Board and is garaged at Linslade.

Nursing in the Home

Nursing in the patient's home is carried out, if the patient is a subscriber to the District Nursing Association, by the District Nurse. There is no other home nursing scheme.

Midwifery

Confinements are conducted *either* in the patient's home:

- 1 The District Nurse alone (see above);
 - 2 The District Nurse together with the patient's doctor.
- or in Hospital or Nursing Home.

In either case Ante- and Post-Natal Examinations are made by the Doctor.

Sanatoria

There is great delay in obtaining admission of Tuberculosis Cases to Sanatoria. In many cases the patient has disadvantageously to be nursed at home.

Infectious Diseases

Cases of Infectious Diseases are removed to the North Bucks Joint Isolation Hospital, the hospital is at Grove in the Rural District of Wing and is 2 miles from Linslade.

Orthopaedic Treatment

Orthopaedic cases are referred to hospital.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

M. C. ROTHCOPE,

Medical Officer of Health.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING 1947

Disease	Number of Cases Notified.										Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
	At all Ages.	Under 1 yr.	1 to 5	5 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 45	45 to 65	65 & Upwards				
Sonne Dysentery	2	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .....	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria .....	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	..	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	15	...	5	9	...	1	...	...	...	...	15	...
Enteric Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms)	4	...	...	...	1	...	...	3	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken Pox	8	...	1	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Encephalitis Lethargica .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Pyrexia .....	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	22	5	11	6	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	1	...	1	...	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	52	5	19	23	1	1	...	3	...	...	15	...

CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED IN THE URBAN DISTRICT OF LINSLADE DURING 1947

Age-Periods.					New Cases.				Deaths.			
					Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
					M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0
1
5
10
15
20
25
35
45
55
65 and upwards
Totals

LINSLADE URBAN COUNCIL

INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1947

Nett Deaths from stated Causes as various ages under One Year

CAUSE OF DEATH			Under 1 week.	1—2 weeks.	2—4 weeks.	Total under 1 month.	1—3 months.	3—6 months.	6—9 months.	9—12 months	Total Deaths under One Year.
All Causes	Certified		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	Uncertified		...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)			...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Convulsions ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Laryngitis... ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhoea ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Syphilis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Injury at Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atelectasis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Congenital Malformations			I	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	I
Premature Birth ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Atrophy, Debility, and Marasmus ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Purpuric Diathesis ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violence ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Accidental & Other Causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals ...	...	...	I	...	...	I	...	...	...	...	I

Nett Births in the Year—Legitimate 18

Illegitimate Nil

REPORT OF THE SURVEYOR & SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1947

MEAT AND FOOD INSPECTION

No slaughter houses are in use in the Urban District. Animals for human consumption are slaughtered at the central slaughter house, which is situated in the adjoining Urban District of Leighton Buzzard.

Regular inspection of retail shops is made and, during the year 1947, 27 condemnation notes in respect of unsound food were issued.

MILK SUPPLY

The number of wholesale producers of milk on the register at the end of the year was three, and the number of retail purveyors five. Milk is also retailed in the district by retailers who are registered in the Leighton Buzzard Urban District.

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT

Water Supply

The town is provided with a main water supply. The Council's pumping station is situated at Soulbury Road and consists of an 18in. diameter borehole, 150ft. deep in the lower green sand. Pumping is by means of an electrically operated Sulzer deep well pump.

The construction of the new building to house the pumping plant on No. 2 borehole had not been commenced by the end of the year.

In April the tender of Messrs. Sulzer Bros. for the supply and installation of the pumping plant was accepted, but delivery was stated by them to be 22 to 23 months.

With the erection of new houses on the Chelsea Green Estate, the demand for water increases and it was found necessary to carry out pumping continuously over a period of 23 hours each day.

The installation of the pumping plant on No. 2 borehole has now become a matter of urgency and a new rising main of larger capacity will be necessary to deal with the increased rate of pumping when the second borehole is put into operation.

I would again refer to the need for increased storage capacity. The existing reservoir (100,000 gallons) is barely equal to one day's supply.

Having regard to the electricity cuts and the fact that No. 1 borehole was fully taxed to produce the required amount of water, I suggested in August, the installation of a Diesel operated pump to act as a stand-by, and as a result it was agreed in November to purchase such a plant from Messrs. George Stow & Co., Ltd.

Sewerage

The sewage disposal works continue, with careful handling, to produce a satisfactory effluent in spite of the fact that theoretically the plant is overloaded.

The condition of the sewage pumping plant is far from satisfactory but this condition can be considerably improved by the installation of new pump plungers, which have been on order some considerable time, and provision of new shafting to the pumps. It is proposed to put this work in hand immediately the new plungers arrive.

Refuse Collection

The central collection of house refuse which I recommended to your council in November, 1946, was put into operation on the 15th September, 1947.

With the new Karrier Bantam refuse collecting vehicle it is possible to reduce the number of collecting days from three to two, thus releasing the vehicle for the collection of salvage, highway work, etc.

The efficiency of the scheme may be rightly judged by the number of complaints received from householders. One only was received during the year under review.

HOUSING

Progress on the Chelsea Green estate improved during 1947, and at the end of the year 18 houses were occupied and a further 34 were under construction.

Of the eighteen families rehoused, ten were living with in-laws (four of these being cases of legal overcrowding), two were from condemned houses, two were occupying overcrowded houses and four were cases of borderline overcrowding.

The number of applicants for accommodation remaining on your Council's list at the end of the year was 170.

SUMMARY OF WORK OF THE SURVEYOR & SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1947

Licensed Slaughter Houses :—None in use	1
Bakehouses on Register	1
Inspections made	12
Defects found	0
Defects remedied	0
Dairies, Cowsheds, etc.	10
Inspections	26
Defects found	1
Defects remedied	1
Factories and Workshops	22
Inspections	54
Defects found	2
Defects remedied	2
Number of houses erected during the year	27
By private enterprise	9
By Local Authority	18

Housing Consolidated Amendment Regulations, 1932

(1) Number of houses which on inspection were considered to be unfit for human habitation	15
(2) Number of houses the defects in which were remedied in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	14
(3) Number of representations made to the local authority with a view to (a) the serving of notices requiring the execution of works or (b) the making of demolition or closing orders	2
(4) Number of notices served requiring the execution of works	2
(5) Number of houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices	5
(6) Number of demolition or closing orders made	0
(7) Number of houses in respect of which an undertaking was accepted under sub-section (3) of section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 ...	0
(8) Number of houses demolished	0

Proceedings under Public Health Acts

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	9
(2) Number of defects remedied	9

C. LAIDMAN,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.

